

GRAND RAPIDS HERALD.

50, 10 PEARL STREET.

Executive Morning Service of the United Press.

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION.

Daily and Sunday, one year, \$10.00.
Daily and Sunday, six months, \$6.00.
Daily and Sunday, three months, \$3.50.
Daily and Sunday, one month, \$1.00.
Sundays only, one year, \$5.00.
Sundays only, six months, \$3.00.
Sundays only, three months, \$1.75.
Sundays only, one month, \$0.50.

TELEPHONE.
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NEW YORK OFFICE:
120 Broadway, N. Y. City.

MONDAY, JULY 18, 1905.

WEATHER BULLETIN.
WASHINGTON, July 16.—For Lower Michigan: Generally fair on Monday, with westerly winds; warmer.

OUTLET TO HAVE A MEDAL.

Patrolman Brown deserves a medal. He gallantly entered a crowd of lawless ruffians which has terrorized the west side for months and arrested a ring-leader. The prisoner's companions sought to rescue him and assaulted the officer in the same manner. Patrolman Brown was assaulted on a former occasion. They challenged the wrong man this time. Officer Brown went in their ranks every time they closed in upon him. They were too many for him to dislodge while he happened by a hold on the struggling tough, who, hammering blows on his face, struggled to free himself. The officer calmly directed his club at the belligerent bully's head and sent it whirling against his temple. The blow laid the tough a helpless and senseless mass of quivering flesh on the sidewalk. The officer was then prepared to fight the cowardly ruffians who essayed to rescue their confederate. The nerve and daring of the brave officer made them flinch in their riotous determination, and the fight was ended. Officer Brown did just the right thing at the right time and in the right place. He ought to have a medal.

NEW RAILWAY PROJECT.

In the near future if proposed plans do not miscarry, an American may board a train of cars at Montreal or Quebec and proceed by an all-rail route to the very heart of South America without changing cars. Preliminary surveys, field notes and maps of a railway to extend through Central America and into South America have been prepared and are being completed to present to congress. No unusual engineering work will be required to construct such a railway. The route is some 4,500 miles long and passes through the richest portions of the agricultural belts of Central and South America. To open up this country to the enterprise of the American speculator to be followed by actual settlement will tap a mine of wealth almost beyond computation. The proposed road would probably require a smaller expenditure of capital in its construction than has been expended in building our transcontinental roads of equal length. Capitalists will doubtless be eager to examine the profits to be made and promote an organization to undertake to build the road.

PRAYERS FOR CONGRESS.

Somebody has suggested that special prayers be offered for the congress which will convene in extra session August 7. The suggestion is a good one. If there ever existed a body of men that needed prayerful assistance it is the body which will be organized into the next congress. Not that prayer will be effective in shaping the instruments of legislation to be used to break down artificial barriers to prosperity, but prayer will have a salutary effect in tempering the wild enthusiasm of those who believe that the congress is more powerful in controlling the destiny of the nation than the natural causes and effects first introduced by the almighty.

THE NORTHWESTERN CHRISTIAN ADVOCATE.

In discussing the subject of prayer, the Northwest Christian Advocate writes: "God is not in answer to prayer, going to make a statement out of the stupid, ignorant and unprincipled politician who holds office simply because we are too sentimentally religious to keep him out of the office. He had no business to hold. But there is a chance to make him understand that to make an use of himself involves moral as well as political responsibility. By all means let us pray to be delivered from the blunders of the ignorant hordes of demagogues composing the next congress."

BOARDING FARM MONEY.

Mr. Chas. regular weekly letter is devoted to a summary of the week's incidents in Wall street and the shuffling of stock operations. His most significant paragraph is the following: "The concentration of money at Chicago is perhaps a much more important element in this death of money than is generally supposed. The tens of thousands who are constantly drifting to the fair take with them money drawn from the banks. In every part of the country and stock streams drain the banks of currency which would otherwise be in use in the city. The amount thus flowing in the hands of those visiting the fair or associated with it may easily run into millions."

IS AN EASY PROJECT

No Great Difficulty Faces a Pan-American Road.

ALL THE SURVEYS ARE MADE

And the Officers Detailed are Completing Their Work to Report to Congress This Winter.

WASHINGTON, July 16.—The international railway commission, which was one of the outgrowths of the late Pan-American congress, is now engaged in winding up the work it has been pursuing for the past two years, and the engineers and surveyors, who have been in the field, are now preparing their reports and reducing the field notes to the shape of maps and charts. This commission was appointed for the purpose of securing surveys of suitable lines for a railway system which should connect the northern and southern hemispheres with each other and form a continuous line of railroad from the United States through the American republics of the south. As in the case of the bureau of American republics, each country interested pays its share of the expense in proportion to population. Congress last year failed to make an appropriation for the continuance of the work on the part of the United States, and it will require the greatest economy for the commission, with the funds on hand, to be able to close up its work and print its reports which will then be open for the use of capitalists who may seek to profit by these government surveys and build the railroads that are contemplated.

RAID ON PENSIONERS.

In addition to his efforts to reduce the pension roll, through the various methods already widely published, Commissioner Lochren has been directed by the president, according to information from a trustworthy source, to prepare a number of bills to be introduced in congress, which would drop a large number of pensioners should they become laws. The intention is to put forward the most harmless of these bills first, as congressional pulse-takers, the others to follow in regular order if congress appears to be in accord with the administration, or to be laid aside until a more propitious time should the contrary prove to be true. Representative Holman is not in accord with the administration on the pension question, notwithstanding his general fondness for economy. He is reported to have said that if the pension program which has been drawn up by Mr. Cleveland and Secretary Hoke Smith be carried out the republicans would have a majority of at least fifty in the house of the Fifty-fourth congress, the members of which will be elected next year. Holman puts it mildly. The mischief already done by Hoke Smith is irreparable. The people will resent his officiousness the first time an election is held. The democrats cannot expect to win again on false promises and broken pension pledges.

Not even so worthy a charity as the giving of alms for the benefit of the heroes who lost their lives in the cold storage building fire would attract large attendance at the world's fair on Sunday. The total receipts for admissions yesterday were pitifully meagre. This small showing must be accounted for by the extreme heat which forbade a general out-turning of the masses. No attraction, however great or however strongly it appeals to our sense of charity, will make the Sunday fair a success with the thermometer at 90 in the shade.

There is a difference of opinion among astronomers regarding the identity of the green veil of light which spanned the heavens Saturday night. One of them declares that it was a tail of a comet and another insists that it was the shimmering of the "northern lights." It was a beautiful display, at any rate, and whether comet's tail or aurora borealis is a matter of supreme indifference to those who are always awed and mystified by spectacular exhibitions in the sidereal heavens.

There is a movement on foot in Indian Territory to secure statehood for the five civilized Indian tribes composing its population. Existing federal and territorial laws make it easy for lobbyists and other designing persons to plunder the natives. It is believed that a state government with state laws would correct the evils complained of.

COLONEL FRED GRANT, ex-minister to Austria, says he is too good a republican to hold office under a democratic appointment. Secretary Gresham has not expressed his opinion on the subject, but it may be taken for granted that he has no very excited ideas on the proprieties involved.

Hoke Smith, secretary of the interior, ever visited the interior of the country. He is taking a trip to get acquainted with himself and the country. When he returns it is to be hoped that his conception of his duty will embrace something besides an unholy raid on deserting pensioners.

Hoke Smith says in his auto-biography that he was admitted to the bar when only 17 and afterwards studied law. Hoke must have got the cart before the horse at an early age and kept him there ever since.

There is a profound pause in South Carolina during which the governor of North Carolina has quietly taken to drink without propounding the time-honored question to the governor of South Carolina.

After the board of directors had decided to close the world's fair on Sunday, the Young People's Christian Union in session at Ridout passed resolutions condemning Sunday opening.

Use of our local exchanges heads an article "Must Dan the River." Pretty nearly everybody that attempts to cross the city water does so without formal command.

Twelve thousand life men in the iron and copper regions of the Upper Peninsula help to emphasize the unwisdom of last November's election result.

Fake silver coins are rapidly approaching the condition of the dead Caesar. By August 1 there will be none so poor to do it honor.

How we want to know how they are to be benefited by the knowledge that larger beer is a cholera prevention.

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